Secl. II-97—100,000—21-5-48.

E&P.H **(1948) Department.**

MS **SERIES.**

G.O. No. 3666 P.H.

Dated 2-11-48

[Despatch Abstract.]

Drugs- Madras Drugs Rules 1940— Compounders' Examinations- Position Clarified- Press Note Issued- Papers Recorded.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

From

Col. S,L. Bhatia, C.I.E., MC. MA. MD.(CANTAB).FRCP(LOND) FRS(E),
Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
Madras.6.

To

The Secretary to Government, Education & Public Health Department, Madras.

Ref. No. 41048-D/48, dated 29-5-48.

Sir,

Sub:- Compounders- Passed with reference to Rule 65 (15) (c) of the Madras Drug Rules, 1945- Appointment in Government and Local Fund Medical Institutions- Not Eligible- Approval Requested.

It is laid down in Rule 65 (15) (c) of the Madras Drugs Rules, 45 that a qualified person means " a person who has had not less than found years practical experience in dispensing." Whether the qualification possessed by such perons is adequate or not has to be approved by the Licensing Authority (the surgeon-General). Therefore two private compounders' examinations were held in the months of September, 1947 and February, 1948 for the benefit of those who possess four years' practical experience in dispensing. Altogether 479 candidates appeared for the examinations and 163 candidates have passed the examinations. The results were published in Fort St. George Gazettes dated 14-11-1947 and 9-3-1948 respectively. Most of the passed candidates are employed either under Chemists & Druggists or Registered Medical Practitioners. The successful candidates were given diplomas with the work 'PRIVATE' entered at the top of the diplomas.

Due to the dearth of qualified compounders, as a special case, the private candidates were allowed to sit for the examinations even though many of them did not possess the minimum educational qualifications prescribed for the regular compounders and had not undergone the prescribed course of training for compounders for the purpose of approval under Rule 65 (15) (c) of the Madras Drugs Rules, 45 for supervision of retail sale of drugs coming under Schedule C,E & H in Chemists & Druggists shops. It has been brought to the notice of this office that these candidates are trying to get into Government and Local Fund Instututions.

The compounders employed in the Government and Local Fund Medical Institutions have to carry on clerical work and correspondence in addition to their professional duties and since most of the candidates who have passed in the above examinations do not possess the educational qualifications required of regular compounders, a circular was sent to all the District Medical Officers and Civil Surgeons not to employ these in Government and Local Fund institutions.

Moreover, the purpose for which the concession was given will be defeated in that the propritors of the Drug Concerns and registered Medical Practitioners will be deprived of the services of the qualified personnel required under the rules for the supervision of Sale of Drugs.

Hence it is requested that Government may be pleased to approve the action of the Surgeon-General in having directed the District Medical Officers not to appoint these candidates in the Government and Local Fund Institutions.

Your obedient servant,

for Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

True Copy.

Memo. No. 40037 G1/48-1 P.H. Dated 7-6-48. E. & P.H.

Drugs- Madras Drugs Rules- Compounders approved with reference to Rule 65 (15) (c)- Appointment in Government and Local Fund Medical institutions- Not approved.

From the Surgeon-General, Ref:. No. 41048- Dated 29.5.48,D/48.

The Government approve the action of the Surgeon-General in having directed the District Medical Officers not to appoint the candidates who were given compounders' diplomas (Private) to post of compounders in the Government and Local Fund Medical institutions.

To the Surgeon-General.

True Copy.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC (INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY) DEPARTMENT.

Extract from The Indian Express -

of Madras dated the 30th July 1948.

COMPOUNDERS.

Sir,

May I bring to the notice of the Government the anomalies arising out of the differentiation between candidates who have taken certificates as qualified compounders recently, and those who passed previous examinations? The present set of candidates are not permitted to be absorbed in Government District Board or Local Fund Hospitals Where then is the necessity for such such examinations? If the intention of the authorities to examine and award certificates to candidates fitting them for nothing except private medical concerns had been notified beforehand, many would have saved the time and money lost in this fruitless enterprise. Therefore I request the Government to consider this case and give equal value to the certificates of compounders awarded this year as well as for those of the past.

K.V.Raghavachari.

Kumbakonam.

True Copy.

EDUCATION & PUBLIC HEALTH DEPTT.

PRESS NOTE. 236 Dated 19-10-48.

With reference to the letter published in the "Indian Express" of the 30th July 1948 under the heading "Coumpounders, the Government wish to make the position clear Rule 65 (15) of the Drugs Rules runs as follows:- "The description" Chemist", Druggist", "Chemist and Druggist", "Pharmacy","Pharmacist", "Pharmacutist", "Dispenser", "Dispensing Chemist", "Dispensary", "Parmaceutical Chemist" or any combination of such words, whether in conjection with other words or other wise, shall not be used by the licensee in any advertisement or on any label, signboard or name plate or otherwise in connexion with the sale of drugs by retail unless the premises are under the personall supervision of a qualified person.

EXPLANATION:- For the purpose of this rule, "qualified person" means a person who:-

(a) holds a degree or diploma in pharmacy or pharmaceutical chemistry of an institution approved by the licensing authority, or
(b) is a Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, or
(c) has had not less than found years' practical experience of dispensing which is in the opinion of the licensing authority adequate, and has been approved by that authority as a qualified person."

Further, dispensing and sale of poisonous drugs specified in schedules E. & H of the Drugs Rules should be supervised only by a qualified person. While issuing licenses under the rules, it was found by the Surgeon-General that most of the drugs dealers were neither qualified nor was the retail sale of drugs in their premises supervised by qualified persons. If rule 65 (15) of the Drugs Rules were enforced strictly, a majority of the dealers would have had to close their shops for want of qualified persons. According to rule 65 (15) (c) of the Drugs Rules, a person who has had not less than four years' practical experience of dispensing which is in the opinion of the licencing authority adequate, may be approved by that authority as qualified person. To adopt a uniform criterion for the purpose of approval of such candidates, the Surgeon-General, with the sanction of Government, decided to hold on examinations for the above purpose. Accordingly three such examinations were held in September 1947, February, 1948 and June, 1948. These examinations were held only for purposes of the Drugs Rules and not with the idea of recognizing the persons who passed the examinations and obtained diplomas and fit and qualified for employment as compounders on Government or Local Fund Medical Institutions. To differentiate these candidates from the regular Compounders, i.e. Compounders who on completion of their prescribed training for a year and pass the examination are awarded the Government diploma, the work PRIVATE has been entered in all the diplomas issued to the former class of persons after the examination held on September 1947, Februayy 1948 and June 1948.

Copy to the Surgeon-General.

True Copy.

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

MG.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Abstract.

Drugs- Madras Drugs Rules, 1945---Compounders Examinations- position clarified- Press Note Issued- Papers Recorded.-

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Education and Publice Health Department.

G.O. No. Ms.3666, Dated 2.11-48.

O R D E R:

The papers may now be recorded for reference.

(By Order Of His Excellency the Governor)

Sd.xxxxxxxxx
Secretary to Govt.

True Copy.

Superintendent
Madras Record Office
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